Irrigation facilities in Bihar

†853. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that maximum irrigation capacity through all sources is about 54 lakh hectare in Bihar whereas irrigation facilities has been created and utilized to the extent of 26 lakh hectare land only; and

(b) the irrigation capacity from small, medium and large sources alongwith underground water sources separately in Bihar and extent to which irrigation capacity has so far been developed and the maximum capacity that can be developed alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) As per information provided by Government of Bihar, the ultimate irrigation potential from major & medium irrigation schemes in Bihar is 53.53 lakh hectare, out of which 26.37 lakh hectare irrigation potential has been created upto March, 2006.

(b) As reported by the Government of Bihar, the ultimate irrigation potential and potential created through major & medium and minor irrigation schemes in Bihar is as under:

(Figure in lakh hectare)

Sl. No.	Description	Ultimate Irrigation Potential	Irrigation Potential created
1.	Major and Medium Irrigation	53.53	26.37
2.	Minor Irrigation		
	(a) Ground Water	48.57	28.99
	(b) Surface water	15.44	7.27

ADB loans for water bodies

854. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified water sector as one of the major sources of Asian Development Bank's loan proposal;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether India has asked ADB to focus on 20,000 water bodies with an irrigation potential of 1.5 million hectares to be restored at a cost of $1 billion in four years;

(c) whether as per ADB's agenda, loans for strengthening and improving water resources management, alone would account for 11 per cent of the multinational banks 2006-08 assistance programme; and

(d) if so, to what extent ADB has agreed to provide loan under this scheme to India's 20,000 water bodies projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir. Government of India has not identified water sector as one of the major sectors for Asian Development Bank's loan portfolio.

(b) No such request has been made to the Asian Development Bank.

(c) As per the Asian Development Bank Country assistance Programme for 2006-08 estimated at US $ 7.35 billion and within this, the assistance for water resources management is estimated at US $ 650 million which is about 8.8% of Asian Development Bank's assistance programme for 2006-08.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply at (b) above.

Constitution of North-East water resources authority

†855. SHRI ALI ANWAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large portion of land of the country gets flooded each year causing great destruction;

(b) whether Government have proposed to constitute a North-East Water Resources Authority in order to check this problem;

(c) whether it is also a fact that flood affect a large portion of land in Bihar each year causing severe destruction;

(d) if so, the efforts made so far in the direction of constituting the proposed authority; and

(e) the details of long-term measures of Government to control the disaster caused by floods?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.